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EXAMINER	
GAUTHIER, GERALD	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2614	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/24/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Notice of this Office communication was sent electronically on the above-indicated "Notification Date" and has a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 MONTHS from 01/24/2007.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/721,005	CHINGON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Gerald Gauthier	2645	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *09 February 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-113* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-113* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *24 November 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *7/20/2004*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2. **Claim(s) 79-105** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. "A computer-readable medium containing instructions" does not fall within at least one of the four categories of patent eligible subject matter recited in 35 U.S.C. 101 (process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter). The claimed invention is directed to a judicial exception to 35 U.S.C. 101 (i.e., an abstract idea, natural phenomenon, or law of nature) and is not directed to a practical application of such judicial exception (e.g., because the claim does not require any physical transformation and the invention as claimed does not produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

4. **Claim(s) 1-19, 21-30, 33-42, 46-68, 71, 74-79 and 106-113** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bull et al. (US 6,954,521 B2).

Regarding **claim(s) 1**, Bull discloses a method for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

receiving, from a service control point, information pertaining to a call to a customer, the service control point being operable to determine how a call is connected (column 6, lines 20-36);

sending a notification of the call to a device associated with the customer (column 9, lines 10-38);

receiving a response to the notification from the customer (column 9, lines 39-45); and

instructing the service control point to connect the call based on the response (column 9, lines 39-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 2**, Bull discloses a method, wherein, prior to the information receiving step, a switch intercepts the call (column 4, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 3 and 50**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the switch intercepts the call upon encountering a trigger (column 4, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 4**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the trigger is a terminating attempt trigger (column 4, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 5**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the trigger is a specific digit string trigger (column 4, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 6 and 51**, Bull discloses a method, further comprising sending an announcement to the switch by the service control point (column 4, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 7 and 52**, Bull discloses a method, comprising playing the announcement for a calling party while the service control point is waiting for a response (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 8, 34 and 53**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the information pertaining to the call comprises at least one of call state data, a call

intercept indicator, a voice mail indicator, time zone data, user ID, called number data, calling name data, calling number data, and calling party number presentation information (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 9**, Bull discloses a method, wherein receiving the information pertaining to the call comprises receiving the information pertaining to the call via a Generic Data Interface (column 6, lines 30-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 10 and 54**, Bull discloses a method, further comprising, prior to sending the notification: retrieving data corresponding to the customer using the information pertaining to the call (column 6, lines 40-45); and

determining the features that are enabled for the customer based on the information pertaining to the call (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 11 and 55**, Bull discloses a method, the sending comprising: retrieving data corresponding to the customer using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

selecting a device associated with the customer to receive the notification based on the data corresponding to the customer (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9); and

providing the notification to the selected device for display on the selected device (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9).

Regarding **claim(s) 12 and 56**, Bull discloses a method, the sending comprising:

selecting a device associated with the customer to receive the notification based on the retrieved data (column 9, lines 40-45); and

providing the notification to the selected device for display on the selected device (column 9, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 13, 35, 47 and 57**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the retrieved data comprises an indication of an access point that the customer is using (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 14 and 58**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the retrieved data comprises at least one of an indication of an access point that the customer is using, a call block list, a list of forwarding devices, a list of forwarding numbers, voice mail preferences, and a list of recordings (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 15 and 59**, Bull discloses a method, the retrieving comprising: determining a customer identification using called number data (column 6, lines 40-45); and

finding an indication of an access point being used by the customer, utilizing the customer identification (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 16, 36 and 60**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the notification comprises a plurality of customer-selectable call disposition options (column 9, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 17 and 61**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the notification comprises an indication of a calling number and a called number (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 18 and 62**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the notification is displayed on the device associated with the customer (column 9, lines 30-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 19, 37 and 63**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the call disposition options comprise at least one of sending a call to voice mail, forwarding a call to another device, performing a call screening operation, accepting a call, playing an announcement, placing a call on hold, scheduling a call back operation, performing an automatic call back operation, performing a call block operation, and initiating a conference call (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 21 and 39**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the call disposition options comprise performing a call screening operation (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 22 and 40**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the call disposition options comprise scheduling a call back operation (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 23 and 41**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the call disposition options comprise performing an automatic call back operation (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 24 and 42**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the call disposition options comprise initiating a conference call (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 25 and 64**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the notification includes a plurality of customer-selectable call disposition options limited by the features determined to be enabled (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 26 and 65**, Bull discloses a method, the instructing comprising: sending the service control point response information indicative of the response to the notification from the customer (column 9, lines 30-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 27 and 66**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the response information includes at least one of call disposition information, forwarding number

information, nature of forwarding number information, carrier access code, announcement type, and ring cadence (column 9, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 28**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the response information includes call disposition information (column 9, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 29 and 67**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the call disposition information comprises an indication of at least one of sending a call to voice mail, forwarding a call to another device, performing a call screening operation, accepting a call, playing an announcement, placing a call on hold, scheduling a call back operation, performing an automatic call back operation, performing a call block operation, and initiating a conference call (column 9, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 30 and 68**, Bull discloses a method, the instructing comprising: instructing the service control point to forward the call to another device based on the response to the notification (column 9, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 33**, Bull discloses a method for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

receiving, from a service control point, information pertaining to a call to a customer, the service control point being operable to determine how a call is connected (column 6, lines 20-36);

retrieving data corresponding to the customer using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

sending a notification of the call to a device associated with the customer, wherein the device is determined based on the retrieved data (column 9, lines 10-38);

receiving a response to the notification from the customer (column 9, lines 39-45); and

instructing the service control point to connect the call based on the response (column 9, lines 39-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 46**, Bull discloses a method for managing a call in real-time based on input from a user (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

receiving information pertaining to a call to a user (column 6, lines 20-36);

retrieving data corresponding to the user using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

selecting a device associated with the user to receive a notification of the call based on the retrieved data corresponding to the user (column 9, lines 10-38);

providing the notification to the selected device for display on the selected device (column 9, lines 10-38);

receiving a response to the notification from the user (column 9, lines 39-45); and

initiating a call screening process based on the response (column 9, lines 39-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 48**, Bull discloses a method for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

receiving, from a service control point, information pertaining to a call to a customer, the service control point being operable to determine how a call is connected (column 6, lines 20-36);

retrieving data corresponding to the customer using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

determining features enabled for the customer based on the information pertaining to the call (column 9, lines 10-38);

selecting a device associated with the customer to receive a notification of the call based on the retrieved data (column 9, lines 10-38);

providing the notification to the selected device (column 9, lines 10-38);

receiving a response to the notification from the customer (column 9, lines 39-45); and

instructing the service control point to connect the call based on the response (column 9, lines 39-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 49**, Bull discloses an apparatus for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

means for receiving, from a service control point, information pertaining to a call to a customer, the service control point being operable to determine how a call is connected (column 6, lines 20-36);

means for sending a notification of the call to a device associated with the customer (column 9, lines 10-38);

means for receiving a response to the notification from the customer ((column 9, lines 39-45); and

means for instructing the service control point to connect the call based on the response (column 9, lines 39-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 71**, Bull discloses an apparatus for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

means for receiving, from a service control point, information pertaining to a call to a customer, the service control point being operable to determine how a call is connected (column 6, lines 20-36);

means for retrieving data corresponding to the customer using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

means for sending a notification of the call to a device associated with the customer, wherein the device is determined based on the retrieved data (column 9, lines 10-38);

means for receiving a response to the notification from the customer (column 9, lines 39-45); and

means for instructing the service control point to connect the call based on the response (column 9, lines 39-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 74**, Bull discloses an apparatus for managing a call in real-time based on input from a user (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

means for receiving information pertaining to a call to a user (column 6, lines 20-36);

means for retrieving data corresponding to the user using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

means for selecting a device associated with the user to receive a notification of the call based on the retrieved data corresponding to the user (column 9, lines 10-38);

means for providing the notification to the selected device for display on the selected device (column 9, lines 10-38);

means for receiving a response to the notification from the user (column 9, lines 39-45); and

means for initiating a call screening process based on the response (column 9, lines 39-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 75**, Bull discloses an apparatus for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

means for receiving, from a service control point, information pertaining to a call to a customer, the service control point being operable to determine how a call is connected (column 6, lines 20-36);

means for retrieving data corresponding to the customer using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

means for determining features enabled for the customer based on the information pertaining to the call (column 9, lines 10-38);

means for selecting a device associated with the customer to receive a notification of the call based on the retrieved data (column 9, lines 10-38);

means for providing the notification to the selected device (column 9, lines 10-38);

means for receiving a response to the notification from the customer (column 9, lines 39-45); and

means for instructing the service control point to connect the call based on the response (column 9, lines 39-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 76**, Bull discloses an apparatus for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

a memory having a program that (column 4, lines 40-44):

receives, from a service control point, information pertaining to a call to a customer, the service control point being operable to determine how a call is connected (column 6, lines 20-36);

sends a notification of the call to a device associated with the customer (column 9, lines 10-38);

receives a response to the notification from the customer (column 9, lines 39-45); and

instructs the service control point to connect the call based on the response (column 9, lines 39-45); and

a processor that runs the program (column 4, lines 40-44).

Regarding **claim(s) 77**, Bull discloses an apparatus for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

a memory having a program that (column 4, lines 40-44):

receives, from a service control point, information pertaining to a call to a customer, the service control point being operable to determine how a call is connected (column 6, lines 20-36);

retrieves data corresponding to the customer using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

sends a notification of the call to a device associated with the customer, wherein the device is determined based on the retrieved data (column 9, lines 10-38);

receives a response to the notification from the customer (column 9, lines 39-45); and

instructs the service control point to connect the call based on the response (column 9, lines 39-45); and

a processor that runs the program (column 4, lines 40-44).

Regarding **claim(s) 78**, Bull discloses an apparatus for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

a memory having a program that (column 4, lines 40-44):

receives, from a service control point, information pertaining to a call to a customer, the service control point being operable to determine how a call is connected (column 6, lines 20-36);

retrieves data corresponding to the customer using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

determines features enabled for the customer based on the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

selects a device associated with the customer to receive a notification of the call based on the retrieved data; provides the notification to the selected device (column 9, lines 10-38);

receives a response to the notification from the customer (column 9, lines 39-45); and

instructs the service control point to connect the call based on the response (column 9, lines 39-45); and

a processor that runs the program (column 4, lines 40-44).

Regarding **claim(s) 106**, Bull discloses a method for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

receiving notification of a call to a customer at a device associated with the customer, wherein the device is determined based on retrieved data corresponding to the customer, and the retrieved data was retrieved using information pertaining to the call (column 9, lines 10-38);

receiving input from the customer indicative of a response to the notification (column 9, lines 39-45); and

sending, to a server, response information reflective of the response to the notification, wherein the server instructs a service control point to connect the call based on the response to the notification (column 9, lines 39-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 107**, Bull discloses a device for use in managing a call in real-time based on input from a user (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

a memory having a program that (column 4, lines 40-45):

receives notification of a call to the user at the device, wherein the device is one of a plurality of devices associated with the user, the device is determined based on

retrieved data corresponding to the user, and the retrieved data was retrieved using information pertaining to the call (column 9, lines 10-38);

receives input from the customer indicative of a response to the notification (column 9, lines 39-45); and

sends response information to a server reflective of the response to the notification, wherein the server instructs a service control point to connect the call based on the response to the notification (column 9, lines 39-45);

a user interface that displays the notification (column 3, lines 41-44); and

a processor that runs the program (column 4, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 108**, Bull discloses a method for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

sending, to a service center, information pertaining to a call to a customer (column 4, lines 40-45), wherein the service center:

retrieves data corresponding to the customer using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

sends a notification of the call to a device associated with the customer, wherein the device is determined based on the retrieved data, and the device is one of a plurality of devices associated with the customer (column 9, lines 10-38); and

provides response information reflective of a response to the notification from the customer (column 9, lines 39-45);

receiving the response information from the service center (column 9, lines 39-45); and

connecting the call based on the response information (column 9, lines 39-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 109**, Bull discloses an apparatus for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

means for sending, to a service center, information pertaining to a call to a customer, wherein the service center (column 4, lines 40-45):

retrieves data corresponding to the customer using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

sends a notification of the call to a device associated with the customer, wherein the device is determined based on the retrieved data, and the device is one of a plurality of devices associated with the customer (column 9, lines 10-38); and

provides response information reflective of a response to the notification from the customer (column 9, lines 39-45);

means for receiving the response information from the service center (column 9, lines 39-45); and

means for connecting the call based on the response information (column 9, lines 39-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 110**, Bull discloses a system for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

a voice network including a service control point operable to determine how a call is connected (column 4, lines 40-45);

a data network (column 4, lines 32-39);

a plurality of devices associated with a user (column 3, lines 41-45);

a service center operable to (column 4, lines 40-45):

receive information pertaining to a call to the user from the service control point (column 6, lines 20-36);

retrieve data corresponding to the user using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

send a notification of the call to a device associated with the user via the data network, wherein the device is determined based on the retrieved data and is one of the plurality of devices associated with the user (column 9, lines 10-38); and

instruct the service control point to connect the call based on a response to the notification from the user by providing the service control point with response information reflective of the response, wherein the service control point receives the response information from the service center and connects the call based on the response information (column 9, lines 39-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 111**, Bull discloses an apparatus for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

a first server operable to receive, from a service control point, information pertaining to a call to a customer, the service control point being operable to determine how a call is connected (column 6, lines 20-36); and

a second server operable to send a notification of the call to a device associated with the customer, wherein the first server receives a response to the notification from the customer and instructs the service control point to connect the call based on the response (column 9, lines 10-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 112**, Bull discloses an apparatus for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

a first server operable to receive, from a service control point, information pertaining to a call to a customer, the service control point being operable to determine how a call is connected (column 6, lines 20-36); and

a second server operable to retrieve data corresponding to the customer using the information pertaining to the call and send a notification of the call to a device associated with the customer, wherein the device is determined based on the retrieved data, wherein the first server receives a response to the notification from the customer and instructs the service control point to connect the call based on the response (column 9, lines 10-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 113**, Bull discloses an apparatus for managing a call (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

a first server operable to receive, from a service control point, information pertaining to a call to a customer, the service control point being operable to determine how a call is connected (column 6, lines 20-36); and

a second server operable to retrieve data corresponding to the customer using the information pertaining to the call, determine features enabled for the customer based on the information pertaining to the call, select a device associated with the customer to receive a notification of the call based on the retrieved data, and provide the notification to the selected device, wherein the first server receives a response to the notification from the customer and instructs the service control point to connect the call based on the response (column 9, lines 10-45).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham* **v.** *John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.

2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

7. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

8. **Claim(s) 20, 31, 32, 38, 43-45, 69 and 70** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bull in view of Patel et al. (US 6,807,259 B1).

Regarding **claim(s) 43**, Bull discloses a method for managing a call in real-time based on input from a user (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

receiving information pertaining to a call to the user (column 6, lines 20-36);

sending a notification of the call to a first device associated with the user (column 9, lines 10-38);

receiving a response to the notification from the user (column 9, lines 39-45).

Bull fails to disclose forwarding the call to a second device.

However. Patel teaches forwarding the call to a second device based on the response, wherein the user provides a telephone number for the second device (column 5, line 66 to column 6, line 4).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bull using the teaching of forwarding to another number as taught by Patel.

This modification of the invention enables the system to forwarding the call to a second device so that the user would receive the call.

Regarding **claim(s) 20 and 38**, Patel teaches a method, wherein the call disposition options comprise forwarding a call to another device (column 5, line 66 to column 6, line 4).

Regarding **claim(s) 31 and 69**, Patel teaches a method, further comprising forwarding the call to another device having a phone number entered by the customer (column 5, line 66 to column 6, line 4).

Regarding **claim(s) 32 and 70**, Patel teaches a method, further comprising forwarding the call to another device having a phone number selected from a list by the customer (column 5, line 66 to column 6, line 4).

Regarding **claim(s) 44**, Bull discloses a method, the sending comprising: retrieving data corresponding to the user using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

selecting a device associated with the user to receive the notification based on the data corresponding to the user (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9); and

providing the notification to the selected device for display on the selected device (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9).

Regarding **claim(s) 45**, Bull discloses a method, wherein the retrieved data comprises an indication of an access point that the user is using (column 6, lines 40-45).

Regarding **claim(s) 72**, Bull discloses an apparatus for managing a call in real-time based on input from a user (column 1, lines 17-20), comprising:

means for receiving information pertaining to a call to the user (column 6, lines 20-36);

means for sending a notification of the call to a first device associated with the user (column 9, lines 10-38);

means for receiving a response to the notification from the user (column 9, lines 39-45).

Bull fails to disclose forwarding the call to a second device.

However. Patel teaches means for forwarding the call to a second device based on the response, wherein the user provides a telephone number for the second device (column 5, line 66 to column 6, line 4).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bull using the teaching of forwarding to another number as taught by Patel.

This modification of the invention enables the system to forwarding the call to a second device so that the user would receive the call.

Regarding **claim(s) 73**, Bull discloses an apparatus, the means for sending comprising: means for retrieving data corresponding to the user using the information pertaining to the call (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9);

means for selecting a device associated with the user to receive the notification based on the data corresponding to the user (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9); and

means for providing the notification to the selected device for display on the selected device (column 7, line 64 to column 8, lines 9).

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gerald Gauthier whose telephone number is (571) 272-7539. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (571) 272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Gerald Gauthier
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2614

GG

January 12, 2007